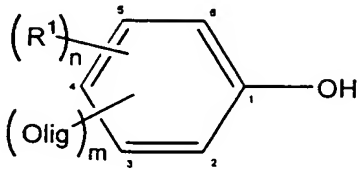
The Claims

We claim:

1. A compound having a formula:



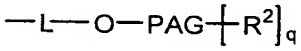
(Formula 1)

where

R^1 is selected from the group consisting of alkyl, $-CH_2(OC_2H_4)OCH_3$, and $-(OC_2H_4)OCH_3$;

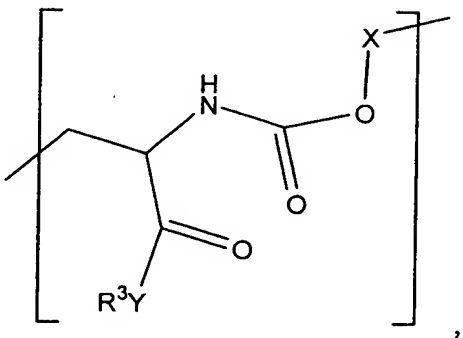
n is 0-4;

Olig is an oligomer having a formula:



where:

L is a optional linker moiety selected from the group consisting of $-CH_2O-$, $-CH_2OX-$, -OX-, -C(O)-, -C(O)X, -NH-, -NHC(O)-, -XNHC(O)-, -NHC(O)X,
-C(O)NH-, -C(O)NHX-, and



,

where:

X is $alkyl_{1-6}$ or is not present,

Y is N or O or is not present, and

R^3 is $alkyl_{1-6}$;

PAG is a linear or branched polyalkylene glycol moiety;

R^2 is an $alkyl_{1-22}$ capping moiety if X is present or $alkyl_{2-22}$ if X is not present; and

q is a number from 1 to the maximum number of branches on PAG; and

m is 1-5.

2. The compound of claim 1 comprising an Olig coupled to carbon 4 of the phenol moiety.

3. The compound of claim 1 comprising an Olig coupled to carbon 3 of the phenol moiety, and/or an Olig coupled to carbon 5 of the phenol moiety.

4. The compound of claim 1 wherein m is 1 and the Olig is coupled to carbon 4 of the phenol moiety.

5. The compound of claim 1 wherein m is 1 and the Olig is coupled to carbon 3 or carbon 5 of the phenol moiety.

6. The compound of claim 1 wherein:

(a) m is 2, and

(b) a first Olig is coupled to carbon 3 of the phenol moiety, and

(c) a second Olig is coupled to carbon 5 of the phenol moiety.

7. The compound of claim 1 wherein L is present and X is not present.

8. The compound of claim 1 wherein L and X are both present.

9. The compound of claim 1 wherein PAG is a linear polyalkylene glycol moiety.

10. The compound of claim 1 wherein PAG is a linear polyethylene glycol moiety.

11. The compound of claim 1 wherein PAG is a branched polyalkylene glycol moiety.

12. The compound of claim 1 wherein PAG is a branched polyethylene glycol moiety.

13. The compound of claim 1 wherein q is 1 to 5.

14. The compound of claim 1 wherein q is 2.

15. The compound of claim 1 wherein R^2 is alkyl $_{5-12}$.

16. The compound of claim 1 wherein R^2 is alkyl $_{1-4}$.

17. The compound of claim 1 wherein X is present and R^2 is methyl.

18. The compound of claim 1 wherein R^1 is alkyl$_{1-22}$.

19. The compound of claim 1 wherein R^1 is alkyl$_{1-12}$.

20. The compound of claim 1 wherein R^1 is alkyl$_{1-6}$.

21. The compound of claim 1 wherein R^1 is methyl and L is not amide or O.

22. The compound of claim 1 wherein R^1 is methyl.

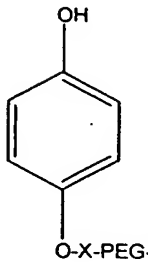
23. An activated form of the compound of claim 1.

24. The activated form of claim 23 wherein the activated form comprises an activating moiety selected from the group consisting of chloroformate, NHS carbonate, and paranitrophenyl carbonate.

25. A biologically active agent comprising a compound of claim 1 covalently coupled thereto by a carbamate bond to form a prodrug which does or does not retain the biological activity of the biologically active agent.

26. A peptide or protein covalently coupled to one or more of the compound of claim 1.

27. The compound of claim 1 having a formula:



(Formula 2),

wherein

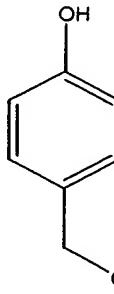
X is an alkyl or is not present;

PEG is linear or branched PEG_{2-50};

R is H or alkyl; and

n is a number from 1 to the maximum number of PEG branches.

28. The compound of claim 1 having a formula:



(Formula 3),

wherein

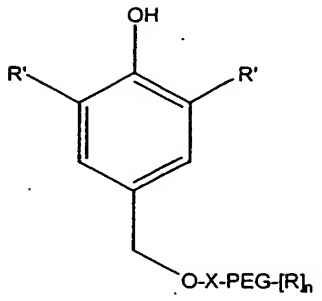
X an alkyl or is not present;

PEG is linear or branched PEG_{2-50};

R is H or alkyl; and

n is a number from 1 to the maximum number of PEG branches.

29. The compound of claim 1 having a formula:



(Formula 4),

wherein

X is an alkyl or is not present;

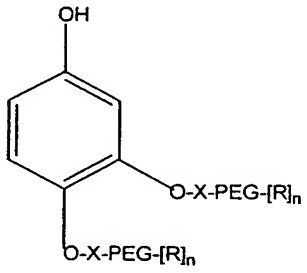
PEG is linear or branched PEG_{2-50};

R is H or alkyl;

R' is alkyl; and

n is a number from 1 to the maximum number of PEG branches.

30. The compound of claim 1 having a formula:



(Formula 5),

wherein

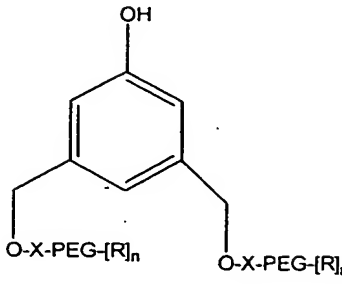
X is an alkyl or is not present;

PEG is linear or branched PEG_{2-50};

R is H or alkyl; and

n is a number from 1 to the maximum number of PEG branches.

31. The compound of claim 1 having a formula:



(Formula 6)

wherein

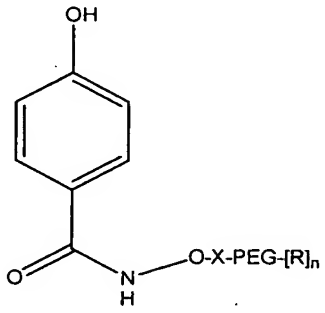
X is an alkyl or is not present;

PEG is linear or branched PEG_{2-50};

R is H or alkyl; and

n is a number from 1 to the maximum number of PEG branches.

32. The compound of claim 1 having a formula:



(Formula 7)

wherein

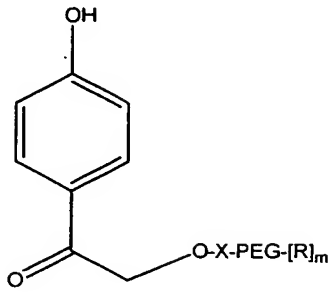
X is an alkyl or is not present;

PEG is linear or branched PEG_{2-50};

R is H or alkyl; and

n is a number from 1 to the maximum number of PEG branches.

33. The compound of claim 1 having a formula:



(Formula 8)

wherein

X is an alkyl or is not present;

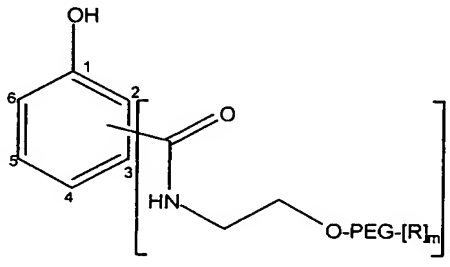
n is 1-22;

PEG is linear or branched PEG_{2-50};

R is H or alkyl; and

m is a number from 1 to the maximum number of PEG branches.

34. The compound of claim 1 having a formula:



(Formula 9)

wherein

PEG is linear or branched PEG2-50;

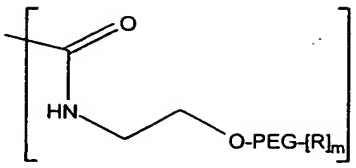
R is H or alkyl;

n is 1 or 2; and

m is a number from 1 to the maximum number of PEG branches.

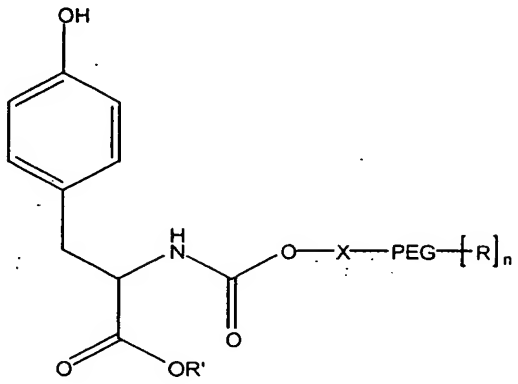
35. The compound of claim 34 wherein:

n is 2; and



is bound to the phenol moiety at positions 3 and 4.

36. The compound of claim 1 having a formula:



wherein

X is an alkyl or is not present;

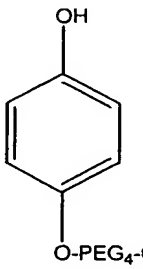
PEG is linear or branched PEG_{2-50};

R is H or alkyl;

n is from 1 to the maximum number of PEG branches; and

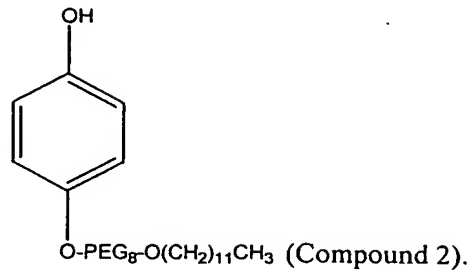
R^1 is alkyl.

37. The compound of claim 1 having a formula:



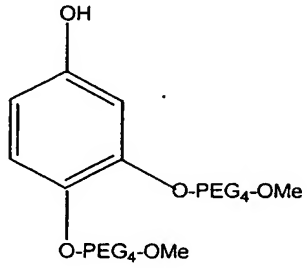
(Compound 1).

38. The compound of claim 1 having a formula:



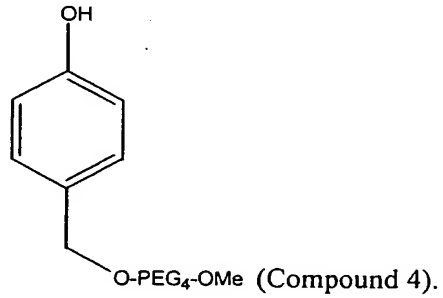
(Compound 2).

39. The compound of claim 1 having a formula:



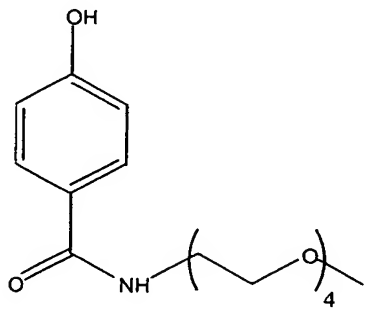
(Compound 3).

40. The compound of claim 1 having a formula:



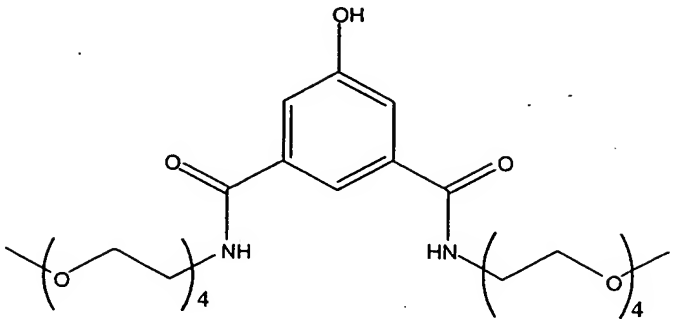
(Compound 4).

41. The compound of claim 1 having a formula:



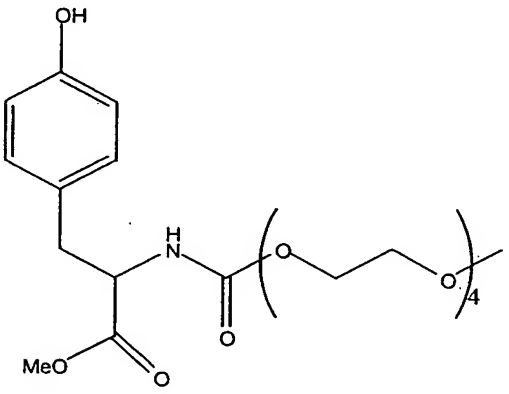
(Compound 5).

42. The compound of claim 1 having a formula:



(Compound 6).

43. The compound of claim 1 having a formula:



(Compound 7).

44. The compound of claim 1, wherein the compound is a pure prodrug or partial prodrug.

45. A pharmaceutical composition comprising the compound of claim 1 in a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

46. A method of synthesizing the compound of claim 1 according to the steps described herein.

47. A method of treating a subject in need of such treatment comprising administering an effective amount of the compound of claim 1 to the subject.